



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/002,210	12/05/2001	Andrew M. Spencer	10014184-1	4151

7590

02/06/2004

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

HESS, DANIEL A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 02/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**SUPPLEMENTAL  
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/002,210

Examiner

Daniel A Hess

Applicant(s)

SPENCER, ANDREW M.

Art Unit

2876

AW

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3-9.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12/5/2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
  - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.
  - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.   |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No. _____  | 7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment         |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.                                    |

Art Unit: 2876

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT / SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOWANCE

#### *Remarks*

The action of 11/12/2003, which was an allowance, was incomplete. In particular, only claims 1, 3 and 4 were addressed. Claims 5-9 were not addressed in that action. The following is a **supplemental allowance**, which addresses every claim, and should be considered a substitute for the 11/12/2003 Office action.

The examiner has conceded the applicant's point that Nelson et al. (US 6,377,218) which was applied in an earlier rejection, the system of dual data interfaces is used for *outward* communication with external sources and not for communication with the memory mass storage. These reasons are discussed further in the *Reasons for Allowance* section, below.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

---

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with

Mr. Thomas Bilodeau on 1/7/2004.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 6 has been **replaced** as follows:

Claim 6. A method of operating a memory card comprising the steps of:  
monitoring for a predetermined signal using the memory card, the memory card  
comprising:  
a memory mass storage,  
a first data interface with a contacting interface,  
a second data interface with a contact-less interface, and  
a memory card controller for selecting a data line for said first data interface or a  
data line from said second data interface to communicate with said memory mass  
storage; and  
switching an input to the memory mass storage from the contacting interface to the  
contact-less interface upon detection of the predetermined signal.

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Claims 1 and 3-9 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

---

The examiner acknowledges that Nelson (US 6,377,218) is a device for interfacing externally (i.e. it is an adapter). Even if it were also a memory card, the portion of the device

Art Unit: 2876

that interfaces between a portable computer and the card is not wireless, so one would not expect wireless interfacing between a memory card and a laptop.

Further, even though memory cards are known which have one of two means of communicating with a device, i.e. either wired or wireless, the prior art fails to teach memory cards that have both means in the same card. Also, the applicant claims a controller that can select either the wired or wireless means.

One would not have been motivated to create the claimed configuration such that one interface is simply used to make the other one redundant (i.e. to handle failure of a first system) because the claimed system selects between two fully functional interfaces that behave differently.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

---

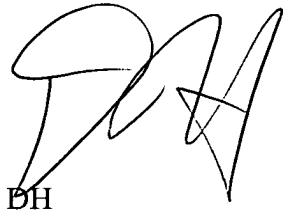
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel A Hess whose telephone number is (703) 305-3841. The

Art Unit: 2876

examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM M-F. **Please note: after January 14, 2004 the examiner can be reached at a new number -- (571)272-2392.**

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G Lee can be reached on (703) 305-3503. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



DH

Daniel A Hess  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2876



**THIEN M. LE  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**